

Amendment in Reply to Office Final Action mailed on September 25, 2007

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed on September 25, 2007, which had been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 26-35 remain in this application, where claims 26 and 31 are independent.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 29 for a certain informality. In response, claim 29 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 29 is respectfully requested.

In the Final Office Action, claims 26-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(2) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,436,052 (Nikolic). Further, claims 26-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,122,960 (Hutchings) in view of Nikolic. Claims 26-28, 30-33 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,160,478 (Jacobsen) in view of Nikolic. It is

respectfully submitted that claims 26-35 are patentable over Nikolic, Hutchings and Jacobsen for at least the following reasons.

As correctly noted in the Final Office Action, Hutchings and Jacobsen do not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claim 26, and similarly recited in independent claim 31, which recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

to process the sensor signals as vector components of a vector to produce a magnitude of the vector using a lookup table of stored magnitudes and associated vector components.

Nikolic is cited in an attempt to remedy the deficiencies in Hutchings and Jacobsen.

Nikolic mentions a look-up table just once, namely on column 7, lines 22-31, which recites:

In step 310 the acceleration output or data for each axis is added to a cumulative sum for the corresponding axis. The acceleration data is compared to the minimum and maximum values of the information obtained in step 305. If the data point is a new minimum or maximum, the data point is saved on storage device 250 of FIG. 2. By way of example, this can be done by employing a look-up table in ROM and taking the magnitude of the resultant values, or alternatively by designating one axis to determine the maximum and minimum data points.

A careful reading of column 7, lines 22-31, indicates that the Nikolic look-up table is used to determine "new minimum or maximum" of raw data, i.e., of acceleration data output from the Nikolic accelerometer. There is simply no teaching or suggested in Nikolic of producing "a magnitude of the vector using a lookup table of stored magnitudes [of vectors] and associated vector components," as recited in independent claim 26, and similarly recited in independent claim 31. (Illustrative emphasis provided)

The Nikolic look up table stores raw data, not magnitudes of vectors, as recited in independent claims 1 and 31. Surely, if it was obvious "to produce a magnitude of the vector using a lookup table of stored magnitudes," then Nikolic would have at least suggested doing so.

Instead of producing "a magnitude of the vector using a lookup table of stored magnitudes," as recited in independent claims 1 and 31, Nikolic calculates "the dynamic acceleration magnitude ... through the use of ... equations," as specifically recited on column 12, lines 43-47, and column 18, lines 9-11. (Emphasis added)

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Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 26 and 31 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 27-30 and 32-35 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 26 and 31.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

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In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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